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THE MENACE

Established Apr. 15, 1911
Aurora, Missouri
This is Number 213
May 22, 1915



Total subscriptions previously reported 1,474,085
Subscriptions expiring last week 12,137
New subscriptions last week 9,946
Loss for the week 2,191
Total Number Subscriptions this date
1,471,844

PROGRESS IN MENACE CASE: ROME ADMITS REAL PURPOSE!

EVERY indication points to the prospect of The Menace and its editors going to trial on Flag Day—June 14—at Joplin. An application has been made for a continuance of the case. This application has been made necessary by the amount of time taken by the court in ruling upon the preliminary motions.

It is impossible to predict what the ruling of the court will be on the motion for continuance to the January term, but the court has thus far overruled each and every motion made by the attorneys of The Free Press Defense League in behalf of the defendants, Wilbur F. Phelps, Rev. Theodore C. Walker, Marvin Brown and B. M. Phelps. If the motion for a continuance is overruled, the case must come to trial on the date for which it is now set, June 14.

From time to time, The Free Press Defense League has furnished Menace readers indisputable evidence of two facts:

First, that Rome is responsible for the indictment of The Menace and the men who, through The Menace, have waged long and vigorous warfare for American institutions.

Second, that the destruction of The Menace, through the conviction of its editors, is but the first step in Rome's plan to destroy the liberty of the press in America—to make it forever impossible for an American newspaper or magazine to criticize or expose any act of the Roman hierarchy.

The Free Press Defense League now finds that all its pains in proving the case against the hierarchy is in vain. For the hierarchy not only admits both charges to be true, but actually boasts of them.

The Tablet is a Romanist newspaper published in Brooklyn, N. Y. It publishes at the head of its editorial page the fact that it is issued "with the approbation of the Rt. Rev. Charles E. McDonnell, D. D., bishop of Brooklyn" and it is known to be the mouthpiece of Cardinal Farley.

Couched in the abusive language usual to Romanist publications in commenting upon non-Romanist papers, is an article in the issue of May 8, dealing with the indictment against The Menace. That article admits only too plainly the purpose of the hierarchy—that of destroying the free press. Here is an extract:

"The case will be tried in Joplin in June. If the government wins this case, which is very likely, over forty similar publications in this country, whose main object is to slander our clergy and Sisterhoods, will probably be indicted also. Already they are planning ways and means of getting immense funds to fight the trial. The cry for more 'subs'—their regular wall—continues but to it has been added the cry for contributions 'to defend free speech.' They are in a bad way. The Menace itself sees the handwriting on the wall and is already starting the publication of another bigoted sheet THE LIBERTY BELL, with which to rake in the shekels if the government decides that the first nuisance maintained by them is too offensive."

The Liberty Bell, by the way, is not an anti-Romanist publication, but a publication devoted to patriotism and woman suffrage! This fact is well known to everyone who knows anything at all concerning The Liberty Bell, and is important as throwing light upon what the Roman hierarchy considers "bigoted." Patriotism, in the minds of the hierarchy, has always spelled "bigotry," and is the real reason for the prosecution of The Menace.

In this matter, Rome knows whereof it speaks. You can count upon it, Mr. Patriot, you can count upon it, lover of liberty, that if The Menace is convicted, if Phelps and Brown and Walker go to the penitentiary for the preaching of patriotism, indictments will be brought immediately against at least forty other publications. And it is a generally accepted fact that this number includes not only anti-Romanist papers, but Protestant, Masonic and purely patriotic publications! The hand of Rome is exposed as it reaches forth to snuff the light of the patriotic press!

If Rome succeeds, it will be a crime in America to preach loyalty to the American government and American institutions, where that loyalty conflicts with the interest of Rome!

Would Take Pope's Deposition

MANY weeks ago the attorneys for the Free Press Defense League selected two of their number—Hon. Edward C. Gates of Ft. Scott, Kan., and Theodore Schroeder of New York, the former a lawyer of note and the latter famous as an authority upon the legal rights of the press—to go to Rome to procure, if it were humanly possible, the deposition of Pope Benedict XV.

(Cut out and mail this coupon with your contribution TODAY)

The Free Press Defense League

Fort Scott, Kansas

WILBUR F. PHELPS, President J. L. SHEPPARD, Secretary
I hereby make application for membership in The Free Press Defense League and I enclose \$..... as my contribution for the purposes of the League.

I understand that in consideration of this contribution, I am to receive a receipt and membership card. Also that after the first year I am to have a voice in the management of the organization and in the election of officers.

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